A P P E N D I X IV:

THE AMENDED CLAIMS (clean version of *all* claims):

1. (*currently amended*) A layered composite useful for flooring coverings and wall panels with at least one decorative surface and consisting of a backing layer of a reinforced thermoplastic polymer which is not polypropylene, a decorative layer arranged thereupon and a heat-cured layer applied to the decorative layer,

wherein a decorative layer and a heat-cured layer applied to the decorative layer are present on each side of the backing layer;

wherein the total thickness of the layered composite is from 1 to 20 mm and the backing layer makes up at least 80% of the thickness;

wherein said reinforced thermoplastic polymer comprises polyethylene, polyvinyl chloride, polyesters, polycarbonates, polyacrylates, polymethacrylates, polyamide, polyurethane, a polyacetal and/or polystyrenes,

and which layered composite is prepared by

heating said reinforced thermoplastic polymer to at least 180°C in an extruder;

then, under a pressure of at least 80 N/cm^2, introducing said heated reinforced thermoplastic polymer into an injection molding chamber of an injection molding machine into which films for the decorative layers and the heat cured layers and an optional intermediate layer have previously been placed,

applying to the layers in the injection-molding machine a holding pressure of at least 10 N/cm^2,

while maintaining said pressure, cooling to a temperature not below 60°C for a period of not more than 4 minutes, and then

removing the layered composite from the injection-molding chamber.

2. (*canceled*)

3. (*previously presented*) A layered composite as claimed in claim 1, where an intermediate layer is also inserted as bonding material between the backing layer and the decorative layer.

4. (*previously presented*) A layer d composite as claimed in claim 1 and comprising a polystyrene backing layer.

5. (*original*) A layered composite as claimed in claim 1 and comprising a polybutylene terephthalate backing layer.

6. (*original*) A layered composite as claimed in claim 1 and comprising a polyoxymethylene backing layer.

7. (*canceled*)

8. (*previously presented*) A layered composite as claimed in claim 1, where the decorative layer is composed of a polymeric material which has an embossment or a coloration or a combination of both, or of paper or of a fabric or of a paper-like or fabric-like or wood-like material.

9. (*previously presented*) A layered composite as claimed in claim 1, where the heat-cured layer arranged on the decorative layer is composed of a thermosetting polymeric material, crosslinked by exposure to pressure or heat during the production of the layered composite.

10. (*previously presented*) A layered composite as claimed in claim 1, whose total thickness is from 5 to 10 mm and whose backing layer makes up at least 90% of the total thickness.

11. (*currently amended*) A process for producing the layered composite defined in claim 1, which comprises

heating said reinforced thermoplastic polymer to at least 180°C in an extruder;

then, under a pressure of at least 80 N/cm^2, introducing said heated reinforced thermoplastic polymer into an injection molding chamber of an injection molding machine into which films for the decorative layers and the heat cured layers and an optional intermediate layer have previously been placed,

applying to the layers in the injection-molding machine a holding pressure of at least 10 N/cm^2,

while maintaining said pressure, cooling to a temperature not below 60°C for a period of not more than 4 minutes, and then

removing the layered composite from the injection-molding chamber.

12. (*canceled*)

13. (*previously presented*) A layer d composite as claimed in claim 1 wherein the reinforcing mat rial of the reinforced thermoplastic

polymer comprises barium sulfate, magnesium hydroxide, talc, wood, flax, glass fib rs or glass beads.